Vol. IX. Numb. 23.

THE OBSERVATOR.

Letters from Denbighſhire, *of burning Mr.* Hoadly, *Dr.* Williams, *and Mr.* Burgeſs, *in Effigies, from* Lincolnſhire, Devonſhire, Surrey, Berwick upon Tweed, *and* Drury-lane. *Of the Rebellious Practices of the Faction in Town and Country, and how they may be ſuppreſſed. Arguments to prove that they are encourag'd by* France.

From Saturday, April 1, to Wedneſday, April 5. 1710.

Countrym. HEre's a whole Bundle of Letters, Mr. *Obſervator*, about the Practices of *Sacheverell*'s, or rather the Pretender's, Faction: we muſt pick out the moſt Material of them, and begin with thoſe which require the ſpeedieſt Conſideration.

Obſ. 'Tis a very good Motion, *Roger*, and I hope the Gentlemen who are ſo kind to the Publick as to ſend us Accounts of thoſe Things won't take it ill if we follow this Method.

Countrym. The Firſt is an Account from *Wrexham* in *Denbighſhire*, *North Wales*, where the Mob aſſembl'd in a Tumultuous and Riotous Manner, in Contempt of Her Majeſty's Proclamation, and of the Proceedings of both Houſes of Parliament, dreſs'd up an Effigies, which they call'd that of the Reverend Mr. *Hoadly*, whip'd, hang'd, drown'd, and burnt it; they did the like with what they call'd the Effigies of the Reverend Dr. *Williams*, and Mr. *Burges*, after which they broke the Windows of the Meeting-houſe there, with thoſe of ſeveral Diſſenters in the Town, and threatned what further they would do as ſoon as the Aſſizes were over.

The Second is from *Lincoln*, with an Account what Care has been taken to ſpread Dr. *Sacheverell*'s Sermons, *&c.* in that City and County, to inflame the People againſt all ſuch as he aſperſes in thoſe Libels; that at *Tatterſhal*, in the ſame County, *when the News came of the Tumults at* London, *the Bells were rung, and Money given to drink Healths to Dr.* Sacheverell *and the* London *Mob*; and they ſpread Lies of ſeveral Worthy Gentlemen, as if they had met once a Week to drink the Confuſion of the Dr. and his Adherents, tho' they are known to be True Churchmen, and Perſons of that Sobriety, as to abhorr the Unchriſtian Practice of drinking Confuſion to any Man: This was done on purpoſe to expoſe thoſe Gentlemen to the Fury of the Mob; but the Faction is now mortified upon the Dr's being found guilty; and the Moderation of the Sentence has in ſome Meaſure put them to Shame, tho' before the Faction talk'd of making an Inſurrection.

The Third is from *Devonſhire*, with an Account that in the Pariſh of *Bampton*, 6 Miles North of *Tiverton*, the Vicar excludes all Diſſenters from the Kingdom of Heaven, after the Manner of *Sacheverell*: And when the laſt General Faſt was appointed by Authority he made no mention of it to his Pariſh, but got a Neighbouring Drunken Parſon to officiate on that Day, while his own Pariſhioners went to Plow, *&c.* and wonder'd that when other Pariſhes obſerv'd the Faſt they ſhould have heard nothing of it: The Parſon he imploy'd, inſtead of obſerving the Order of the Day, went on to damn the Diſſenters, as Plotters againſt the Church, of which he warn'd his Hearers to beware; and in purſuance of thoſe Mutinous Deſigns, the Vicar of the Pariſh, an Apothecary, and an Exciſeman, drank Dr. *Sacheverell*'s Health in all Companies, extoll'd his Piety, reflected upon the Houſe of Commons, commended the Dr's Sermons; and before any Tumult happen'd, threatned that if the Dr. were try'd there would be a Riſing. The ſame Parſon, tho' he keeps up Prayers, almoſt conſtantly, on *Wedneſdays* and *Fridays*, yet on the 8th of *March* laſt, the Day of Her Majeſty's Happy Acceſſion to the Throne, he omitted it. Some Years before the Wife of one of his Pariſhioners being buried on the Evening of that Day, he prolong'd the Office for the Burial of the Dead by many Impertient Additions, and when ask'd why, he anſwer'd, That it was the Day of Her Majeſty's Inauguration, and that he forgot to ſay Prayers in the Morning.

The Fourth is from *Surrey*, of the 30th paſt, with an Account that Dr. *Sacheverell* was expected in thoſe Parts that Day; many People went out from *Rygate* to meet him, and bring him into that Town in Triumph, when they expected a great deal of Miſchief to be done there to ſuch as are well affected to the Government, and particularly to a Coffeeman, who takes in the *Obſervator*, and took up a Fellow who went about Town on a Faſt-day, which made all the Faction mad, and proclaim'd that *Sacheverell* would be created a Biſhop. The ſame Fellow rais'd a Mob; and when told that his Practices were contrary to the Queen's Proclamation fix'd to the Market-poſt, he damn'd the Proclamation; upon this a Warrant was granted to take up the Fellow by a Juſtice of Peace, formerly thought to be of another Stamp, but now brought to a Senſe of his Duty by the Inſolence of the Faction; he was accordingly taken up by the Honeſt Coffeeman, and Bound over by the ſaid Juſtice, for which the Faction threaten to Ruin the Coffeeman, and ſent for him privately to knock him on the Head; but he diſcover'd and prevented their Deſign. The Cauſe of their Malice againſt this Man is his Loyalty to the Government, and becauſe he took in the Queen's Proclamation againſt *Sacheverell*'s Rebellious Mob, the Addreſs of the Commons, and the *Obſervator*. 'Tis hop'd the Government will take Notice of this Man, who has run ſuch a Riſque for his Loyalty, and imploy him in ſome Poſt of the Exciſe, *&c.* rather than Jacobite Fellows, who Poiſon the Country with their Seditious Speeches, and ſpread Rebellious Libels, in which none are more Active than many of the Inferior Officers of the Exciſe, whoſe Influence it conſiderable among the meaner Sort of People, whom they overawe, and make them believe the Government favours *Sacheverell* and his Faction.

The Fifth is from a Gentleman at *Berwick upon Tweed* of the 21ſt paſt, with an Account that on the Road from *London* to that Place all the Diſcourſe was about *Sacheverell*; that in many Parts a Man dare not ſpeak againſt him, except he will

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run the Riſque of his Life; that at a Coffee-houſe in *Huntington* the Gentleman gave them *Captain* Tom's *Letter to the Mob* to read, which made more Proſelites than their Parſon's Sermon; that at *Coleworth* he ſent it to his Landlord to read, who carrying it to ſome other Company, where there was an Exciſeman, the Impudent Fellow, tho' he eats the Queen's Bread, ridicul'd it, extoll'd Dr. *Sacheverell* to the Mob about him, and began his Health with an Huzza.

The Sixth is from an Honeſt Gentleman in *Drury-Lane*, with an Account that abundance of Papiſts have lately flock'd to Town from the Country; that they are ſo numerous about *Bloomſbury*, &c. that Honeſt People ſtand amaz'd and afra'd at it; that they go abroad like Owls in the Night, and come in to their Lodgings in Coaches and Chairs at Two or Three a Clock in the Morning; and to prevent Noiſe or Suſpicion, don't knock at the Doors, but have People waiting for them on purpoſe, who open the Doors immediately, and let them in, where they ſtay till Night comes, and then they go out again upon their Walks. They abound about *Devonſhire-ſtreet*, *Ormond-ſtreet*, &c. and flock to Coffee-houſes about *Drury-lane*, and the Two *Wild-ſtreets*, where they have News ſuited to their Taſte, and are join'd in their Cabals by many Pretended Churchmen. From theſe Places they ſend their Letters into the Country, many of which are frank'd; and they uſe other Sly Methods to cheat the Queen of her Poſtage, and to poiſon the Country with Libels, and *Dyer*'s, and other Seditious News-Letters. The *Britiſh* Coffee-houſe in *Wild-ſtreet* is one of their Places of Rendezvous, and much frequented by *Iriſh* Papiſts and High-fliers, the Man of the Houſe having (as they ſay) been Father *Peter*'s Butler, and ſuſpected to have been one of the late Mob. The Pariſh Officers, who are appointed to go about and enquire after Diſaffected Perſons and Lodgers in thoſe Parts, do it ſo ſuperficially, that it ſignifies nothing, for they take the Word of thoſe who come firſt to the Door, without enquiring any further, though many of the Honeſt Neighbours have told 'em of the Danger they apprehend from ſuch a Concourſe of Papiſts, and other Diſaffected Perſons, who are become ſo inſolent, that a *French* Papiſt, a Fanſtick-maker in *King's-head-Court* in *Drury-lane*, inſults all his Neighbours in the Court, ſince he and his Wife were acquitted of a Robbery and Burglary in the Mob-Night, though a Pulpit-Cuſhion, and Cloak, and ſeveral Pictures, and other Furniture of Houſes, was found about them; but they eſcaped by laying the Blame on their Apprentice, whom they pretend to have turn'd off, but have really put him to a Friend of theirs in *Black-friars*, where he is at Work till the Noiſe be over.

Now pray Mr. *Obſervator* give me your Opinion of all thoſe Things.

Obſ. There's no need of my Opinion, *Roger*, the Matter ſpeaks for itſelf; any Body may ſee that there's a Rebellion form'd by the Papiſts and *Sacheverells*, or the Pretender's Church Faction, againſt the Government, to overturn both Church and State. 'Tis Plain that thoſe Mobs are not natural, but forc'd by the Intrigues of the *French* and our Falſe Pretenders for the Monarchy and Church; they delude many of the Poor Unthinking People by a Falſe Noiſe of the Church's Danger, contrary to the Declaration of the Queen and both Houſes: And we have no Reaſon to doubt but they ſprinkle Money among the Poorer Sort, which is very acceptable in Time of Want. We may be convinc'd by the laſt *Paris Gazette* that the *French* Court is at the Bottom of this Matter, ſince they make ſuch a Parade with the Height that our Diviſions are come to; ſay that the Judgment againſt *Sacheverell* would be put off on that Account; boaſt of the Lords and Commons that took his Part; that above a Hundred Clergymen have preach'd ſuch Sermons as his; and that the Fomenters of the Tumults are not yet diſcover'd; and in order to make it more formidable than it was, they formerly gave out, that above a Hundred of the Mob were kill'd and wounded by the Guards.

Countrym. Several of the Perſons who have writ thoſe Letters deſire your Advice what to do with theſe Seditious People, Maſter.

Obſ. They have Her Majeſty's Proclamation, *Roger*, which is Direction ſufficient to take 'em up, carry 'em before Juſtices of Peace, and get 'em bound over. Her Majeſty has ſhew'd them good Example by turning off one of her own Yeomen of the Guards, and ordering him to be proſecuted. For the Seditious Clergy, they muſt complain of 'em to the Juſtices of the Peace, and to their Dioceſans, that they may be proſecuted, as Her Majeſty has order'd that Incendiary to be who vindicated *Sacheverell*, and reflected on the Parliament at *Welchpool*. No Man's Eye or Hand ſhould ſpare ſuch Wretches as foment a Rebellion againſt the Beſt of Queens, who has done more for the Church of *England* than all her Anceſtors, and is its Chief Ornament by her Zeal and Piety. We have no Reaſon to doubt but the Poor Deluded People will ſoon be undeceiv'd, if the Magiſtrates everywhere do their Duty, as Her Majeſty by Her Gracious Letter has order'd thoſe of *London* to do; and that they will be convinc'd that thoſe Ferments are rais'd on Purpoſe to Ruin the Proteſtant Intereſt, by dividing us amongſt themſelves. Our Falſe Pretenders to the Church and Monarchy might be taught better Things by the Noble Example of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, whoſe Senſe of what they owe to themſelves, and to all *Europe*, has made them join with the Proteſtant Confederates, notwithſtanding all the Endeavours of their begotten Prieſts and Jeſuits to the contrary. This ought to put all our *Engliſh* High-fliers and Papiſts to the Bluſh, that a Family which ever has been reckon'd the moſt Zealous R. Cath. in *Europe*, ſhould act ſo wiſely while they act ſo fooliſhly; and this I think our Britiſh and Iriſh Papiſts ought to conſider, and not concur to the Ruin of a Family, which as they have been the moſt Zealous of all others for it, are the moſt capable of prevailing with our Government to continue that Lenity to the Papiſts here, which by their preſent Rebellious Practices they convince the World that they don't deſerve; and by Conſequence muſt provoke the K. of *Auſtria* to forbear interceeding for them, and leave them to the juſt Severity of our Laws.

Advertiſements.

*** Yeſterday was publiſhed, The Gloceſterſhire Addreſs redreſs'd. Price One Penny.

THE 8th Volume of Obſervators, from February the 20th to January the 14th, 1709, with a Preface and Alphabetical Index pointing to the moſt Remarkable Tranſactions of the laſt Year at Home and Abroad, particularly to the Preliminaries for Peace, the Operations of the Campaign, Publick Grievances, Matters of Trade, Dr. Sacheverell's Sermon and Impeachment, &c. Sold by B. Bragge, at the Raven in Pater-Noſter-Row; where may be had Compleat Sets, or Single Ones, from the Beginning to this Time.

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